

Selectmen/Assessor Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2014

Board Present: Elmer Savage, Greg Grotton, James Justice, Lyle Cramer and Sara Moore.

Also Present: Jay Feyler, Joel Moore, Doris Vertz, Jean Grimord, Lawrence Nash and Beth Birmingham.

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** by Chair at 6:30PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** given by all who wished.
3. **Public Comment:** there was none.
4. **Approve Minutes of May 6, 2014:** Motion made by Greg Grotton to approve May 6, 2014 minutes with corrections so noted. Seconded by James Justice. Four for. One abstention. (Savage).
5. **Discussion on Prayers at opening of Selectmen's Meetings:** Sally asked are there any legal reason prayers couldn't be said at the opening of Selectmen Meetings. Jay noted there was some case that went to the Supreme Court and the Court said you can hold prayers, what those parameters are he doesn't know. Sally thinks it's a good idea to start our meetings with a prayer. Lyle commented, he prays a lot goes to church every Sunday and is a member of a church but he doesn't pray in public at a meeting like this and he will not be saying a prayer at the opening of these meetings. He added this also opens up a whole set of controversies that are going to result from this, there will be a vast number of people out there who feel this shouldn't happen because of Church and State. Also it will be very difficult to allow one kind of a prayer and say no to another kind of prayer. Lyle agrees with Sally that it would be very nice to do that but it is not as simple as it sounds. Elmer, Greg and Jim agree with Lyle's comments.
6. **Vote to close office on June 10th for Elections and close at 2:00PM June 16th for Town Meeting:** Motion made by Greg Grotton to close office on June 10th and to close at 2PM on June 16th. Seconded by Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.
7. **Nomination to the MMA LPC Committee:** Motion made by Lyle Cramer to nominate Jay Feyler. Seconded by Greg Grotton. Unanimous.

8. **Authorize funds from Parks and Recreation Reserve:** Jay reported this work was done about five years ago, it has held up well but it needs to be done again. Motion made by Greg Grotton to authorize \$5,226.00 from Parks and Recreation Reserve. Seconded by Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.
9. **Sand and Salt Building further discussion:** Jay reported the steel building and the clear span building with the clear span being by far the least expensive but that is not a decision the Board needs to make tonight. Removing the top of the building taking the walls down and using it as storage, then at some point we would have to go over next to that building and do a whole new base. He said that would be quite expensive. Lyle suggests we go with the Quonset hut because the other one will cost twice as much and we need to keep a close eye on what the feelings of the people are when they hear about and see a tax increase, hear about a lot of building it may not be easy sailing to get the lowest cost. We may hear a lot of resistance because of the cost. Motion made by Lyle Cramer that we go with a Quonset hut. Seconded by James Justice. Unanimous. Board asked Jay to get estimates on salvaging the storage building.
10. **Sign Treasurer's Warrant:** Motion made by James Justice to sign Treasurer's Warrant dated May 21, 2014. Seconded by Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.
11. **Other Business:** The owner of the Pizza Shop told Jay he does not want a step into the walkway by his shop. He asked the Board to consider leaving a 2ft. opening basically on a line where the existing rail ends then start the rail and go down to the ramp. Jim said that is dangerous. Lyle added that is a Code issue and does not want to see us going against code. Jim added we have all looked at it, looked at different ways of doing it the safest and the right way of doing it is what we're doing for safety.
12. **Town Manager's Report:** Jay reported a number of street sign have disappeared this winter not from plowing but from theft. We are in the process of ordering signs and some different hardware and it is not a sign where you can hang on it and rip it off. We've been trying to grade roads but it won't stop raining. You can't grade in the rain. Jay reported Roger Therriault's wife passed away this past weekend.
13. **Selectmen's Report:** Jim reported the Thompson Community Center by-laws have been re-written he will have a copy after their meeting tomorrow. Jim added the Sheriff's Dept. not has an office in the TCC building. Greg asked the Board for approval to put POW and MIA flags on the flagpole. Motion made by Jim Justice to put POW and MIA on the flagpole. Seconded by Sara Moore. Unanimous.

14. Future Agenda Items: there was none.

15. Adjourn: Motion made by Greg Grotton to adjourn at 7:45PM. Seconded by Sara Moore. Unanimous.

These minutes were approved on June 3, 2014 with the following amendments.